

Daily Eagle

M. M. MURDOCK, Editor.

Too many politicians are eager to sponge off bleeding Kansas.

Talk is cheap, and a good deal cheaper since the Bell telephone patent expired.

Where would the Republican majority go, if the election should be held now?

The words have not changed—but the tune, the tune: "Four more years of Grover."

Breakridge is bound to keep his name before the public if he has to fight to do it.

Our national credit is in danger and Cleveland is less of a credit to the country than ever.

Upon what meat does this, our British lion, feed that he has grown so great? American gold.

As a matter of fact the trouble with the Democratic party at present is Run, Reserve and Rebellion.

Even Beerbohm Tree can not live without a root, and he has come to America for the root of all evils.

According to Ed Howe a man is always glad when his cross body will not be good with any one but his mother.

Kansas would be in a hard row of stumps if Topeka should go on a strike and refuse to have any more state offices.

There are no cuss words in the Japanese language—and there are no collar-buttons to the Japanese shirts either.

Several men yesterday would like to have said something about the weather. But they couldn't in the presence of ladies.

According to Will White a "Methodist chicken" is a bird that has lots of light meat and no back nor neck to speak of.

Does the new Kansas gambling law reach those candidates who are in the habit of drawing straws to see who is elected?

Mrs. Lease should have solved the problem of civilization by asking the people to emigrate to Wichita. The tropics indeed!

Can we expect anything? It is pretty hard when the Democratic party goes to the extremity of garnishing our very hopes.

The Democratic party is slowly getting this country into the condition the Confederacy was in when the Democratic party left it.

It is said that 2000 men have been converted in Wichita. This covers the entire Democratic vote and a large part of the Populists.

Wichita's social gaiety increases with the age of the season and every week the girls blow up their pneumatic sleeves a little bit tighter.

Kansas is progressing even in adversity. Time was when every town in the state tried to coax a boom by erecting a water-works standpipe.

General Weaver is going to make one or two more remonstrances, and then if the country doesn't heed him he is going to abandon it to its fate.

Thought is an embarrassing thing. He who turns and runs away will live to fight another day. That was all right till the whole Chinese army tried it.

An Eagle contributor's advice: "Don't get into a flurry. You can walk further in a day than you can run. Just take your time and be quick about it."

Somebody ought to swear that photographer for taking Lucien Baker's picture just after the new senator had finished putting a ton of coal in his cellar.

The first gambling den in Kansas raided will reveal to the eyes of the officers a lot of larger robust men intent on telling one another's fortunes with cards.

If Incalls had postponed his talk with John L. Sullivan until after Brockbridge and Heard had their fistfight, the interview might have had some connection.

Less than \$50 has been contributed to a memorial to James G. Blaine in the state of Maine. Even Democratic incompetency can defeat honors to dead patriots.

As Dick Oglesby once said in a speech: "The Democratic party knows nothing of finance—why thunder and lightning, friends. It is all the Republicans can do to understand it!"

If this country should go to smash suddenly in the next few days, you can count on Joseph Cook of Boston bobbing up and declaring that he predicted it twenty years ago.

A Chicago court has decided that a girl has no right to keep her engagement ring if the engagement is broken. And again is the iron hoof of tyranny ground into the coming woman?

Jerry Simpson figures that 90 per cent of the coming generation will be criminals. A few weeks ago Lowell said he would wait for posterity to cheer and praise his administration.

Representative Otto Eckstein learned an Augustine under the Staatshauptstadt zurück und ist zuversichtlich, "durch seine Thätigkeit Erspresliches für Wichita leisten zu können, says the Wichita Herald this week. We don't believe it.

Leavenworth Times: A farmer near Wichita shot his wife to death and then walked into town and took his seat on the mourning bench in the county jail. She had left him and he made the separation final. They do all sorts of things at Wichita.

THE CONSUMMATED JOB.

It will not be surprising if the people of southwest Kansas now conclude that the Eagle's editorial of Thursday morning, in which it was suggested that the present state administration was in immediate danger of being devoured by the political wolves and vultures, was well founded. For years, and through Republican, Democratic and Pop state administration alike, no man, no city, no section of the state outside of the old political den were ever conceded anything more than the crumbs and scraps not desired by the wolves and vultures. This is as true of political honors and preferment as it is to state institutions. Outside of the rhomboidal pocket, overshadowed by the wings of the vultures and prowled over by the wolves, the exceptions were individuals were recognized or honored as few as to state patronage or institutions granted, none Topeka has been at once the vent hole and the main entrance, the place for the principal screeches and howls, as also the primary receptacle. A recognition of this one-sided arrangement, the general conviction that there was little hope for anybody or anything outside of the den, was found materialized in the wonderful and enthusiastic support awarded Ralph Burton for the United States senate. Topeka, with the lion's share of all the important offices, federal and state, and with the interest of the greatest railway corporation in the nation centered in her, had no claim or right to a railway commissioner. Not only do the entire people of the state recognize that the placing of one there, was either a job or a preconcerted arrangement, but the officials who are responsible will be made to feel it just as sure as that Ralph Burton could through a sentiment developed of like impositions in the past command fifty-one Republican voters for United States senator in caucus.

WEST WANTS BANKRUPT LAW.

There is no denying the fact that a very large per cent of the most enterprising men in the west are rendered helpless because of the absence of any legal and honorable way of relieving themselves of hopeless burdens imposed by adverse conditions for which they were not personally responsible. The wave of distrust and financial reverses which swept their business away and robbed them of their property, leaving them struggling beneath a load of debts, arose from a combination of circumstances which were as much political as financial. It was the most enterprising men, the men most valued to the community who were as a rule buried the deepest. Until some legal relief is had these individuals are barred from attempting to make another start in life. The result is that the very class who in ordinary times, and under ordinary circumstances, were doing so much to develop the west, are today bound hand and foot by judgments and debts which they are debarrd even from a chance to liquidate.

Early in the present congress what is known as the Torrey bankruptcy bill was introduced in the house. It failed to pass, but a substitute for it, applicable to voluntary bankrupts only, was introduced by Mr. Bailey of Texas, and was passed and sent to the senate. The judiciary committee of that body has reported it back with numerous amendments which change the details but not the substance, and it is now before the senate with a possibility of its adoption.

The Bailey bill provides in substance that if any debtor owing \$200 or more makes an assignment of his property for the benefit of his creditors he can file a petition in the district court of the United States asking for a discharge from his debts. His creditors must be given notice of his application, and if they are unable to show any fraud on his part, he gets his discharge. A person who cannot pay his debts and who owes \$200 or more may, without making an assignment, file his petition for a discharge of his debts.

The old law it will be remembered, provided for involuntary bankruptcy as well. That is, if a man's creditors became satisfied that he was going to fail they did not wait for him to make an assignment but began proceedings which forced him to turn over what he might have remaining, to be divided equally by the court among his creditors. But the Bailey bill will make it impossible to bankrupt any man except by his own consent. This measure would set free a large number of unfortunate but honorable and enterprising men in the west and south, and probably in few, if any instances, defraud any creditor, because under the present law those creditors would never realize anything of them anyway. The Bailey bill further recognizes the exemption laws of every state. This would prove very fortunate for bankrupt Kansans. The cry of the eastern creditor that "the creditor class and the honest debtor class do not ask any such legislation" is not true. The unfortunate debtor, however, honest or whatever showing or promises he may make can seldom obtain such concessions from the grasping creditors as will afford any substantial relief, or a chance to make another start.

It is in the interest of not only the west and south that this bill pass, but of the creditor east which depends on these returns for their own success as capitalists, manufacturers and money lenders.

LEGISLATURE MUST STAND BY TOPEKA.

The present legislature will surely not prove so remiss or unkind of the eternal fitness of things as to adjourn before they have created two or three new fat offices in the interest of the much-overlooked, but no less hungry politicians of Topeka. Of course that burg of aspiring and deserving patriots hold about all the places worth holding, but even with the railroad commissioner given them there must be others unprovided for. Topeka claims both Howe and Simpson, however. Why the executive board did not name another Topeka man in place of Lowe no one has attempted to explain or excuse, except the fact that Overmyer, a Topeka man, named Lowe. So the legislature should promptly create a few more fat positions, send out word all over the state for all aspirants to

come on with their claims, and, having patiently heard each individual wait, then award the positions to such remaining ex-officials as may be found stranded in that political mecca. The state does not realize how much it still owes Topeka, still the legislature should not forget that there is the state house, also a state school and a state insane asylum, into which they can dump a few hundred thousand more of the money contributed to the treasury by the great counties outside of the pocket, whose peoples will be satisfied with nothing short of an assurance that their money is being expended in the interest of their state capital and its noble and ambitious politicians.

WHAT WILL THE END BE?

The resources of the government for the past two years have been insufficient to meet the ordinary current expenses. One hundred million dollars in bonds have been sold and still there is nine dollars of floating debt for every dollar in sight with which to pay it. Not even our almost unbounded credit as a nation has been equal to holding the confidence of foreign investors who are not only demanding their interest, rents and dividends in gold as fast as they fall due, but who refuse to reinvest. There is no confidence anywhere, and the president of the nation is begging congress to authorize a loan equal to one-fourth of the entire cost of the war, or of five hundred million dollars. The country has run squarely up against an unsurmountable wall and must turn back or veer in another direction and that immediately. The situation is grave even to threatened disaster, such as this nation never experienced. In addition to our railroad debts and municipal debts, which are held abroad, and the land and manufactures owned by foreigners, we are paying two hundred millions of gold annually to Europe for doing our shipping and for giving our nabobs a good time in their travels. All told these sums amount in the aggregate to over one million of dollars per day which must go in gold to Europe, with only a reduced balance of trade to offset the mighty current. Unless confidence is restored and this great stream is turned back for reinvestment a rich man's panic will follow in the next few months of such magnitude and far reaching consequences as will not be recovered from in a generation. Everybody realizes this while all talk of fiat money, parity of metals and the like have ceased and the demagogue has subsided.

The problem which congress has to deal is to relieve the treasury without upsetting the currency system of the country too suddenly. To do this it is proposed to sell bonds and redeem and relieve the legal tender notes, substituting national bank notes of not less than ten dollars denomination thereby forcing silver and silver notes into circulation. However, bankers and boards of trade throughout the country are divided in opinion. In truth no man can see the need further than that everybody realizes that this country is so vast and rich that it can and will pay the debts incurred in its wild speculative booms. The way once provided for taking care of the aggregate debt, confidence will be restored and good times will be with us again.

LET BANKERS HAVE THEIR SAY.

The bankers, through the newspapers and magazines, are giving us no end of voluntary advice on the financial situation. Expert knowledge of banking and, for that matter, of national finance would be of no trifling value to the public but it must be remembered that this gratuitous literature is of no greater value than the source from which it emanates. True, all classes are embraced in the entire people, and it is just to say that bankers are an indispensable part, but they are few in proportion, and are possessed of the human attribute for money getting. Since their occupation constitutes them the active agency in handling the world's exchanges, and draws the surplus cash to their keeping, it is only fair to assume that no advice from that quarter would, in any wise, hazard the banker's private interest. On a given proposition it is impossible for two parties to share the same profit at the same time. In the world of business there are natural conflicting interests, and certainly it is manifest here so plainly that we call it self-interest. The bankers, like the broker in stock, or the dealer in merchandise, figures against the world. High rates of interest yield him a better profit than cheap money. A low rate enhances the profit, by much, of the borrower. The borrowing class is greatly in excess numerically in this country, but as they outnumber the lenders of money, they constitute the great majority who elect congressmen and build up the industries of the country. Now that the bankers are taking it upon themselves to do most of the talking through the press, it would be a safe precaution on the part of the public to make due allowance for such prejudices and preferences as may grow out of self-interest. Fair, open discussion is well enough, and a just measure or policy should be discarded because advocated by a banker, but bankers must fortify their position with something more useful and more reasonable than mere dogmatic assumption, such as that gold, and gold only, is the infallible standard of all values in this country.

It is creditable to congressmen that they are disposed to feel their way carefully in acting upon the advice of the New York bankers and their Washington agents. The people are in the saddle yet and will, doubtless, remain there.

THE ANT MAN.

From the Chicago Times.
To look at the mild, timid ants of our cool climates, which run at the sight or sound of people, build their humble nests under a stone or in the cracks of trees, and content themselves with gentlemanly little thefts of seeds, or an astronomical impossibility of the grain, or such small matters, to look at these gentlemanly little fellows you would never imagine that there are some branches of their family, distinct cousins, who are fierce in the pursuit of their human neighbors' goods, so strong and so intelligent that even grown men are afraid of them, and

sometimes whole villages turn out to fight them. But it is so, and these eyes of mine have looked upon them and their ruthless doings.

The formiga, as the destroyer is called, constructs a citadel for itself underground, its only communication with the world above being by secret passages. If it can find any woodlice thereabouts, it captures and carries them home, makes a yard for them, a veritable farm yard, and keeps them, content by furnishing a supply of fresh leaves every day, just for all the world as we feed our farm stock. The formiga is a marauder of its own kindred, too, making raids on its weaker cousins and bearing off their eggs, which, in due course of hatching, become the slaves of their captors.

Usually the people of those tropical regions pay little attention to the doings of the formiga. They come and go as they list, running over the tables, dishes; they are fished out of the butter, tapped out of the bread and cake. It is all a matter of course. But when these sturdy little fellows invade the house in swarms, and a warm reception—boiling water—fails to diminish the nuisance, then the service of the ant man becomes necessary and he is sent for in hot haste. His stock in trade is an enormous bellows, and a load of a certain kind of wood found in the neighboring forests. After stopping up all the openings leading under the house, except a central one, he enforces that and forms it into a furnace that will admit the pipe of the bellows.

Then he lights a fire, and with the aid of the great bellows forces the smoke into the ant citadel under the surface of the ground. Of course these are very porous, and when the smoke passes through them it goes out into the house above. Then the ant man leaves an assistant to work the bellows and, going into the house, stops up every aperture and crack that he can find.

Meanwhile there is a wild commotion among these doomed insects whose home is being bombarded with smoke. They understand their danger with the very first puff that reaches them, and know that their only hope is in flight. They all hasten to the central chamber, where their precious eggs are stored. At a given signal from their chief each one seizes an egg, then all turn in haste into the subterranean passages that lead into the garden, deserting their homes and carefully stored stock of provisions, but holding fast to the treasured eggs.

But there before them are cruel wreaths of blue smoke. They turn and rush to another passage. The same thing there. As a forlorn hope the poor ants—we can't help feeling sorry for them, after all—run into the old deserted galleries, or set to work to make new ones, hoping their enemy will not find them there at last.

But the ant man is patrolling the grounds around the house. As the old or new galleries are cleared out by the brave little ants the smoke penetrates them and comes to the surface in a thin wreath. They are thus betrayed as well as smothered, and a stroke of the spade ends their frantic efforts to escape.

All this time fresh quantities of the hot smoke are being forced through their highways and byways, and the frail bodies of the formiga are shriveling and dropping along their line of attempted retreat. Soon they cease to struggle. They can not breathe the rarified, smoke-laden air. The next day when the soil has cooled off, they are found calcined in their once busy galleries, their roasted eggs at their sides. Poor little creatures!

But their human victims call the ant man a blessing.

PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL.

—B. L. Farjeon, the novelist, attributes all the good fortune which has been his to the luck-giving New Zealand greenstone which he has carried for years on his watch chain.

—Sir Isaac Newton, in his "Commentaries on Daniel," says that the ecclesiastical festivals were originally fixed at cardinal points in the year, without reference to the dates of the incidents, dates which it was impossible to ascertain.

—Beatrice Harraden thinks that the women of the United States have few things to complain of, and she admires their frankness, honesty, cleverness and lack of affectation. She particularly "likes the way American girls behave about men."

—Ira Ward, born in Connecticut April 9, 1796, and his wife Hannah Graves Crumpton Ward, born in Vermont, October 11, 1797, are living on a farm near New Hudson, Vt. They were married November 16, 1817, seventy-seven years ago.

—Prof. John Stuart Blackie, the famous author, is one of the sights of Edinburgh. His active life runs through three generations and is eighty-six he is still vigorous. Surviving so many famous men who were his friends, he is justly called the "last of the Scots."

—Foreign papers say that the report that Mlle. Helene Vacarescu, whose broken engagement with the crown prince of Roumania attracted world-wide attention, had been married is erroneous. It seems that it was her cousin, the daughter of the court-marshal, T. Vacarescu, who became the wife of Paul Catargi.

OKLAHOMA OUTLINES.

This is the month in which Jewell was to hang at Woodward.

Down at Blackwell the ice on the river is six inches thick and still freezing.

Blackwell by the last of this week will be able to talk to Woodward by telephone. Somebody has seen fit to remark that there was no "strings" on Shoestring Smith.

The school board at Perry is in doubt as to whether a mechanic's lien against a public building will hold.

It is slowly developing that the resolution in Oklahoma is to be a weapon of defense for all ages to come.

No one believed those charges against Judge McAtee any way. The judge is a man whom the people like.

R. T. Wray of Ponca City was a friend of Jo. Campbell who was found dead in a hotel in Wichita the other day.

The contractors of the Choctaw pay the men who work for them \$1 a day and charge them \$1 a day for their board.

Alfred Percy Daniels is still with the legislature at Guthrie. Is Daniels trying to be the Sam Wood of Oklahoma?

The old Beaver Advocate has been changed to the Beaver Herald, and Misses Lilly and Dorothy Wright are editing it.

The requirements for entrance into the Millionaires club of Enid is that an applicant shall prove that he owes a million dollars.

Mary and Myrtle and Maggie Bills are three babies that were born at Yukon one night last week. Their mother is Mrs. Douglass Bills.

The land in West Oklahoma City over which Touch and Adams had their feud has at last been awarded to Dr. Higgins, one of the contestants.

J. H. Wheeler has been appointed to the mighty office of inspector general of the militia of Oklahoma. He will have to inspect about forty-three men.

The fire-boys at Oklahoma City never know how fast they could go until the report was brought to them the other day that Gristmill Jones' establishment was on fire.

Judge Burford in a public letter says there can be no well-grounded reason against criticism of a judge's conduct, ideas or decisions. Judge Burford always was considerable of a man.

Whitcomb of Enid pulled his head in on the legislature the other day. He had a silk-hat on and George Orner had to move a suspension of the rules until the council got over its surprise.

Although the Osage Indians are worth \$3,000,000, the government supports them right along as though they were so many paupers. What is the matter with the government any way? Is it crazy?

SPEAKING OF WICHITA.

Conway Springs Star: Two new papers were started in Wichita last week. Where do fools come from?

Kansas City Star: At a "Tribby" tea in Wichita not a girl in town could be found who could show up a foot without a corn plaster.

Kansas City Star: If Lewelling starts an orange farm in California he will have to grow a few lemons just to remind him of Mrs. Lease.

Minneapolis Messenger: Eugene Field, Victor Murdock and Delbert Valentine is the literary triumvirate that has declared "Tribby" a fraud.

Clay Center Dispatch: Some Wichita bankers have discovered a banking scheme, which, according to the paper, they pronounce "superior to the Carlsbad scheme." It must be a dandy.

Modest Patriot: Wichita is now enjoying a church revival. Well, there is room in Wichita for a good sized, enthusiastic revival without crowding in the divorce cases that entertain those who prefer them.

Larned Eagle-Optic: Every man who lives in Wichita looks on the horizon. It is to become a great city, but everyone who was caught in the busted "boom" with Wichita town lots on his hands knows that it will not.

Augusta Journal: Wichita is filling with hope that she is on the eve of another boom. It is stated that if all the encouraging evidences of Wichita's prosperity were published, the Eagle would be accused of romanticism.

Minneapolis Messenger: The Eagle says that Wichita is booming with an audible boom, while St. Louis is booming with an inaudible boom. The driver told him to climb up on top. "But does it to the same place?" queried the cautious youth.

Troy Chief: The Wichita Eagle sends us a line set up by its typesetting machine, bearing the legend, "Chief, Troy, Kansas." The type of the Eagle is now wholly set up by the use of machines. By this system a paper comes out in a dress of new type every day.

Emporia Republican: The Topeka Journal is dissatisfied with the police commission appointed for Wichita. The people of Wichita seem to be well enough pleased, but as against the wishes of the Topeka Journal their ideas are not to be given much weight.

Kiowa Review: While the business men of Topeka and other cities in Kansas are growing under the present hard times, Wichita and Kiowa keep right ahead and are doing a good safe business. About the only ones at the capital who are able to hold out are the hotel men.

End Wave: During the winter of 1886-87 Wichita was swelled to mammoth proportions with a great big boom, so much so that a blizzard coming from the north was checked up when it ran into Wichita. Now, since the swelling has gone down, the internal blizzards rush right through the Prairie Princess and pile onto us.

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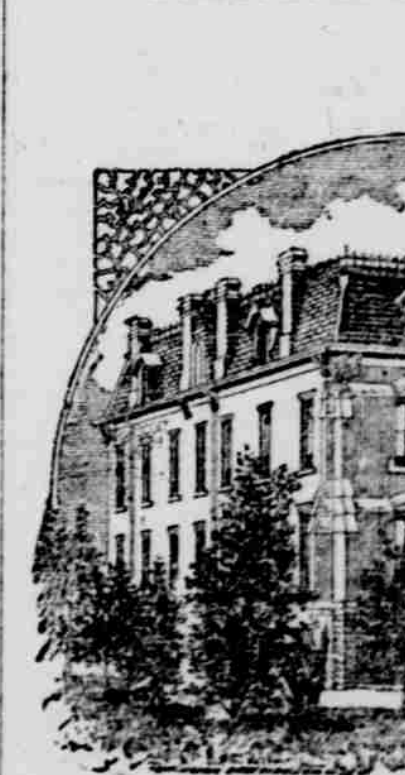
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